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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT  
TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

May 12, 2021  
(Date of earliest event reported)

**ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-8957  
(Commission File Number)

91-1292054  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

19300 International Boulevard  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Seattle

Washington

98188  
(Zip Code)

(206) 392-5040  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Ticker Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, \$0.01 par value	ALK	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.12b-2).

- Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

This document is also available on our website at <http://investor.alaskaair.com>.

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## **ITEM 8.01. Other Items**

On May 12, 2021, Alaska Air Group, Inc. (the Company) announced it will be taking 30 additional mainline and regional aircraft. Under this plan, the Company will add 17 new Embraer 175 jets in 2022 and 2023 to the regional fleet, nine representing option exercises that will be operated by Horizon, and eight under a long-term capacity agreement with SkyWest. In addition, 13 Boeing 737-9 MAX options will be exercised with deliveries in 2023 and 2024.

The Company has issued a press release regarding this fleet activity. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

## **ITEM 9.01 Financial Statements and Other Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits.

[Exhibit 99.1](#)

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ALK Press Release dated May 12, 2021

Cover Page Interactive Data File - embedded within the Inline XBRL Document

## **Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

Registrant

Date: May 12, 2021

/s/ CHRISTOPHER M. BERRY

Christopher M. Berry

Vice President, Finance and Controller

May 12, 2021

**Contact:**

Media Relations

(206) 304-0008

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**Alaska Airlines announces plans for fleet growth and route expansion**

*Orders for 30 additional mainline and regional aircraft for flying after recovery;*

*Belize becomes newest international destination added for leisure travelers*

SEATTLE — With recovery on the horizon, Alaska Airlines is taking advantage of strategic opportunities by adding 30 mainline and regional aircraft to fulfill capacity needs in the years ahead. And as more travelers search for additional leisure getaways, Alaska will begin flying to Belize City, Belize.

**Growing the Alaska Air Group fleet**

Alaska expects domestic travel to return to pre-COVID levels by the summer of 2022, which will require more aircraft across Air Group. To prime the airline for growth, Alaska is taking the following actions:

- Adding 17 new Embraer 175 jets to the regional fleet in 2022 and 2023 – nine to be operated by Horizon Air and eight by SkyWest.
- Exercising options for 13 Boeing 737-9 MAX deliveries in 2023 and 2024.

The 17 regional aircraft additions grow Air Group's regional fleet to 111 planes: 71 at Horizon and 40 with SkyWest. Horizon will receive its nine additional E175s in the next two years: five scheduled for delivery in 2022 and four in 2023. This is in addition to three existing firm E175 orders to be operated by Horizon. All eight SkyWest aircraft will enter service for Alaska in 2022.

“Regional aircraft play a huge role in Alaska's growing network,” said Nat Pieper, senior vice president of fleet, finance and alliances. “As our network expands, regional aircraft connect smaller communities to our larger hubs providing critical feed to assist in the development of new markets.”

Alaska announced a restructured agreement with Boeing in December 2020 to acquire 68 737-9 MAX aircraft between 2021 to 2024, with options for another 52 deliveries between 2023 and 2026. The airline will accept the first 13 options over two years: nine in 2023 and four in 2024.

“We are excited to exercise options for more 737-9s just months after committing to 68 firm deliveries. It's another indication that we're ready for growth,” added Pieper.

### **Alaska adds Belize to its international destinations**

Alaska also announced today new nonstop service to Belize City, Belize, in Central America from the West Coast. Belize will be the fourth country Alaska flies to from its West Coast hubs, joining Canada, Mexico and Costa Rica. Routes and schedules to Belize will be announced when ticket sales begin in early June.

“Our guests are eager for more eco-friendly leisure destinations, especially as they get vaccinated, and we're ready to offer them terrific options,” said Brett Catlin, Alaska Airlines vice president of network and alliances. “Belize offers an unbeatable mix of sensational beaches, iconic cays and rich heritage.”

Alaska is now a member of the **oneworld** global alliance. With **oneworld** and our additional airline partners, guests can travel to as many as 1,000 destinations around the world. Along the way, flyers can earn and redeem miles with Alaska's highly-acclaimed [Mileage Plan program](#).

### **About Alaska Airlines**

Alaska Airlines and its regional partners serve more than 120 destinations across the United States and to Mexico, Canada and Costa Rica. The airline emphasizes [Next-Level Care](#) for its guests, along with providing low fares, award-winning customer service and sustainability efforts. On March 31, 2021, Alaska became the 14<sup>th</sup> member of **oneworld**. With the global alliance and Alaska Airlines' additional partners, guests can travel to more than 1,000 destinations on more than 20 airlines while earning and redeeming miles on flights to locations

around the world. Learn more about Alaska at [newsroom.alaskaair.com](https://newsroom.alaskaair.com) and [blog.alaskaair.com](https://blog.alaskaair.com). Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air are subsidiaries of Alaska Air Group (NYSE: ALK).